



**EPA REGION I  
REMOVAL PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT**

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**Site Name and Location**

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**Name:** John J Riley Site      **Location:** Salem Street  
**Town:** Woburn      **County:** Middlesex      **State:** Massachusetts

**Site Status:**      ☐NPL      ☒NON-NPL      ☐RCRA      ☐TSCA  
                         ☐ACTIVE      ☐ABANDONED      ☐OTHER

☐Attached USGS Map of Location      ☒Site I.D. No.: MAD001035872

**Latitude:** 42° 29' 26.1" North      **Longitude:** 71° 07' 37.6" West

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**Referral**

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☐Citizen      ☐City/Town      ☐State      ☒Preremedial  
☐RCRA      ☐Other:

**Name of referring party:** Nancy Smith      **Telephone:** (617) 918-1436  
**Address:** USEPA Region 1, 1 Congress Street, Suite 1100, Boston, MA 02114-2023

**Contacts Identified**

1) Joe Lemay, RPM      **Telephone:** (617) 918-1323  
2)      **Telephone:** ( )

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**Source of Information**

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☐ Verbal:  
☒ **Report:** *Expanded Trip Report*, prepared by Weston Solutions, Inc., 21 September 2004.  
☐ Other:

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**Potential Responsible Parties**

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**Owner:** Organix, Inc.      **Telephone:** (781) 932-4142  
**Address:** 240 Salem Street, Woburn, MA 01801

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### Site Access

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**Authorizing Person:** Peter Meltzer, President, Organix, Inc.

**Date:** May 17, 2005

**(X)Obtained**

**( )Verbal**

**Telephone:** (781) 932-4142

**( )Not Obtained**

**(X)Written**

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### Physical Site Characterization

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**Background Information:** The site is the location of the former Riley Company tannery, which operated at the site from 1915 to 1989. In 1994, the property was subdivided and redeveloped for commercial and industrial use. The Site is now defined as Lots 1, 2, 7, and 8 on the Woburn Tax Assessor's Map 37. This removal site investigation focuses on the rear portion of Lot 7, currently owned by Organix, Inc. Possible tannery-related waste and high levels of chromium in surface soils have been identified in this particular area.

#### **Description of Substances Possibly Present, Known or Alleged:**

Solid waste, leather scraps, and soils bearing a bluish-gray material have been observed in and adjacent to a drainage swale in the northern (rear) portion of Lot 7.

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### Existing Analytical Data

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#### **( ) Real-Time Monitoring Data:**

**(X) Sampling Data:** Soil sampling conducted by Weston Solutions, Inc. on June 22, 2004 documented chromium concentrations up to 49,000 mg/kg in surface soils in this area.

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### Potential Threat

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Description of potential hazards to environment and/or population-identify any of the criteria for a Removal Action (from NCP) that may be met by the site under 40 CFR 300.415 [b] [2].

- i. Actual or potential exposure to nearby human populations, animals, or the food chain from hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants.

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### Potential Threat (Concluded)

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- iv. High levels of hazardous substances or pollutants or contaminants in soils largely at or near the surface, that may migrate.
- v. Weather conditions that may cause hazardous substances or pollutants or contaminants to migrate or be released.
- vii. The availability of other appropriate federal or state response mechanisms to respond to the release.

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### Prior Response Activities

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**(X) PRP**                      **(X) STATE**                      **( ) FEDERAL**                      **( ) OTHER**

**Brief Description:** Site investigation and cleanup activities were conducted under the Massachusetts 21E program when the property was being redeveloped in the 1990s.

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### Priority for Site Investigation

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**(X) High**                      **( ) Medium**                      **( ) Low**                      **( ) None**  
**Comments:**

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### Report Generation

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**Originator:** Frank Gardner, On-Scene Coordinator  
**Affiliation:** USEPA Region 1, EPRB

**Date:** February 14, 2006  
**Telephone:** 617-918-1278